

Eldridge, Iowa  
November 23, 1956

Dear Miss Pike,

What an attractive annual report! And what a good one! Thank you for sending it to me.

Thank you, too, for your letter of last week with its enclosed clipping from the newspaper. Whoever wrote that story is a good reporter, I'd say. Your letter brought out a new one to me - that the state would have to return any local budget cut which might be made. That's fantastic! And I don't think your council is the only one in Iowa - or anywhere else in the country, for that matter - which would cut a library budget without batting an eye under those circumstances. Another thing which appalls me is plan three. Why should anyone knock themselves out to organize either of the other two, when it'll all be done for them, including the money, by the state in plan 3. Of course, I personally think plan 3 is horrible, but it certainly does relieve everyone else of any responsibility.

But I have to stop getting all hot and bothered about this thing - I have succeeded in working myself into an ulcer, the doctor thinks, so from now on out, I'm going to let it all roll over me!

I certainly agree with you on that point about the personnel being sent in by the state. Do you remember Lura Currier's emphatic and repeated statements in her talk at the convention about "you must not let the state impose any of these changes on you"?

Winter - beautiful winter - has come to our part of Iowa, too. Only a very light covering of snow during last night, but it's white! You have my full permission to think I'm nuts - but I like snow!

As ever,